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Attorney for Defendant

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CONNIE ONELY, : CIVIL ACTION

Plaintiff

.

v. : No. 21-cv-4785

:

REDNER'S MARKETS, INC.

Defendant : Assigned to: Wendy Beetlestone, J.

EXHIBIT "D"

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CONNIE ONLEY

:

Plaintiff, :

•

VS.

: CIVIL ACTION

: 2:21-cv-04785-WB

:

REDNER'S MARKETS, INC. :

:

Defendant. :

- - -

REMOTE videoconference deposition of

ALEXIS FOREMAN

held on Monday, June 27, 2022, beginning at approximately 2:08 p.m., before Robin A. Vance, CCR, RPR and Notary Public for New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

- - -

R&K REPORTING, INC.
Court Reporting Services
37390 Harmony Drive
Selbyville, Delaware 19975
215-946-7009 rkreporting@gmail.com

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APPEARANCES:

(ALL PARTICIPANTS WERE PRESENT REMOTELY)

KARPF, KARPF & CERUTTI, P.C. BY: ANDREW R. OLCESE, ESQUIRE 3331 Street Road, Suite 128 Bensalem, PA 19020 215-639-0801 aolcese@karpf-law.com -- Attorneys for the Plaintiff

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WITNESS PAGE

ALEXIS FOREMAN

BY MR. OLCESE 5

EXHIBITS REFERENCED

No. DESCRIPTION PAGE
D-5 10/1/20 Statement - S. McGrory 56
(KS000317-320)

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	5
1	(It is agreed by and between
2	counsel that reading, signing,
3	certification and sealing are hereby
4	waived; all objections, except as to the
5	form of the questions, are reserved until
6	the time of trial.)
7	COURT REPORTER: The attorneys
8	participating in this proceeding
9	acknowledge that I am not physically
10	present with the witness and that I will
11	be reporting this proceeding remotely.
12	They further acknowledge that, in
13	lieu of an oath administered in person,
14	the witness will verbally declare that her
15	testimony in this matter is under penalty
16	of perjury.
17	The parties and their counsel
18	consent to this arrangement and waive any
19	objections at this time.
20	Counsel also acknowledges and
21	agrees that the official transcript is
22	solely the one transcribed by the court
23	reporter.
24	Counsel, please indicate your

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1	agreement by stating your name and your
2	agreement on the record beginning with
3	Plaintiff's counsel.
4	MR. OLCESE: Andrew Olcese for the
5	plaintiff. I consent and agree.
6	MR. ELLIOTT: Jeffrey Elliott for
7	the defendant. I also consent and agree.
8	
9	ALEXIS FOREMAN, having been duly
10	sworn, was examined and testified as
11	follows:
12	
13	EXAMINATION
14	
15	BY MR. OLCESE:
16	Q. Good afternoon again, Miss Foreman.
17	My name is Andrew Olcese. I represent Connie
18	Onley in a lawsuit against Redner's.
19	First question, have you ever been
20	part of a deposition before?
21	A. Yes, I have.
22	Q. Okay. So, starting with the most
23	recent, when was the last time you were in a
24	deposition?

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- 1 A. I believe it was approximately three
- 2 or four years ago.
- 3 Q. Okay. And did it involve your
- 4 employment with Redner's?
- 5 A. Yes, it did.
- 6 Q. Okay. What position did you have with
- 7 Redner's at that time?
- 8 A. Director of employee relations.
- 9 Q. And were you the plaintiff in any suit
- 10 brought against Redner's as a result of that
- 11 deposition?
- 12 A. No, I was not.
- 13 Q. Okay. So were you being deposed in
- 14 the deposition you're describing as part of the
- 15 defendant with Redner's?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Do you know the name of that
- 18 plaintiff?
- 19 A. Gretta Slough.
- 20 Q. Can you spell the first and last name,
- 21 please?
- 22 A. To the best of my ability,
- 23 G-R-E-T-T-A, Slough, S-L-O-U-G-H.
- Q. And to your understanding why was Miss

R&K Reporting Inc.

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- 1 Slough bringing a lawsuit against Redner's?
- 2 A. It was a harassment case.
- 3 Q. Can you be more specific in terms of
- 4 what type of harassment?
- 5 A. Sure. Sexual harassment.
- 6 Q. Did Miss Slough allege any claims of
- 7 gender discrimination against Redner's?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Do you know if this matter that you
- 10 were involved in with a deposition was in federal
- 11 court or state court?
- 12 A. If I recall correctly, it was state.
- 13 Q. Okay. Did this matter ever go to
- 14 trial?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Okay. Do you know if it was dismissed
- 17 before trial or just resolved?
- 18 A. I believe it was resolved.
- 19 Q. Okay. And to your understanding, why
- 20 were you being deposed?
- 21 A. I took the initial complaint when
- 22 my -- when the complaint came across, it was over
- 23 a weekend. And at the time, I wasn't handling
- 24 these types of manners -- matters, excuse me, and

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- 1 my boss was on vacation at the time, so I took
- 2 the complaint initially.
- 3 Q. Okay. And who was your boss at the
- 4 time that was on vacation?
- 5 A. Robert McDonough.
- 6 Q. So you received the complaint and then
- 7 to your knowledge, that's why you were being
- 8 deposed?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And during this deposition,
- 11 what did you testify about generally?
- 12 A. The nature of the complaint.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. Her report.
- 15 Q. So did Miss Slough during her
- 16 employment complain and bring those complaints to
- 17 your attention?
- 18 A. Yes, she did.
- 19 Q. Okay. And did she complain sexual
- 20 harassment allegations against a certain
- 21 individual?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Is that individual still employed with
- 24 Redner's?

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- 1 A. No, he is not.
- Q. Can you identify that individual?
- A. I can't recall his last name. I know
- 4 his first name is Jeff and he is no longer
- 5 employed.
- 6 Q. Okay. And what store did Miss Slough
- 7 and Jeff work at where these allegations of
- 8 harassment occurred?
- 9 A. The Fredericksburg store location.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- MR. ELLIOTT: Fredericksburg,
- 12 Pennsylvania?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 14 BY MR. OLCESE:
- Q. Okay. Do you know if Mr. Karl
- 16 Michener was ever deposed as part of the
- 17 complaint for Miss Slough?
- 18 A. He was not.
- 19 Q. Okay. Do you know if Sandra McGrory
- 20 was part of the complaint against -- from Miss
- 21 Slough?
- 22 A. She was not.
- Q. All right. Other than that issue with
- 24 Miss Slough where you were deposed, have you ever

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- 1 been a part of any other depositions?
- 2 A. I have not.
- 3 Q. Okay. So I'm correct this would be
- 4 your second deposition?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. All right. Okay. So just to remind
- 7 you because it's been at least three to four
- 8 years, and I'm sure you already know, but this is
- 9 pretty much a question-and-answer session. It's
- 10 an opportunity for me, on behalf of Miss Onley,
- 11 to find out what you know regarding her
- 12 employment and separation from Redner's. Okay?
- 13 So with that being the case, we're obviously
- 14 conducting this remote. You and I can see each
- 15 other, but everything that's being said is being
- 16 typed down by the court reporter. So what that
- 17 means is even though I can see you, all of your
- 18 responses to my questions need to be answered
- 19 verbally. So if you give me a head nod or a head
- 20 bob to a question that can be answered in a yes
- 21 or no, I'm going to ask you, is that a yes or no,
- 22 just so Robin can write it down. Okay?
- 23 A. Correct, understood.
- Q. Also, if you answer with like uh-huhs

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- 1 or uh-uhs, even if I understand what you're
- 2 saying, I'm going to ask if that's a yes or no so
- 3 Robin can write it down. Okay?
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. Biggest thing, and you're do a good
- 6 job so far and I'll try to keep doing a fair job
- 7 of it, only one person can speak at a time so
- 8 that Robin can really type down everything
- 9 clearly. So with that being the case, I'm going
- 10 to ask you to refrain from responding and
- 11 answering my questions until I fully get out the
- 12 question, even if you know what's going to be
- 13 asked. Okay?
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. And I'll try to do my best to give you
- 16 as much time as you need to response in any way
- 17 you feel appropriate before I go on to the next
- 18 question. All right?
- 19 A. Understood.
- 20 Q. If you need to take a break at any
- 21 point, to use the restroom, to stand up and
- 22 stretch or get a bite to eat, perfectly fine, let
- 23 me know. The only thing I ask is if there's a
- 24 question pending, that you answer it before we

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- 1 take a break. Okay?
- 2 A. Okay.
- 3 Q. At certain points your counsel Jeff
- 4 might make objections to my questions. Even if
- 5 he objects, you still need to answer my questions
- 6 unless he explicitly tells you to not answer my
- 7 question. Is that understood?
- 8 A. Understood.
- 9 Q. All right. If at any point I ask a
- 10 question that you don't understand, you want me
- 11 to reword it or clarify, please let me know, I'm
- 12 happy to. Sometimes it might just come out a
- 13 little jumbled in my mouth, so I'm happy to
- 14 clarify anything. The only thing is, though, if
- 15 you answer my question, I'm going to assume that
- 16 you understood what was being asked. Okay?
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 Q. All right. Do you have any questions
- 19 at all?
- 20 A. Not at this time.
- 21 Q. Okay. Miss Foreman, are you on any
- 22 medication today that would inhibit your ability
- 23 to recall past events?
- 24 A. No.

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- 1 Q. Is there any reason that you can think
- 2 of that you will not be able to answer my
- 3 questions fully and truthfully today?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. All right. Great. Can you please
- 6 state your full name for the record?
- 7 A. Alexis Foreman.
- 8 Q. Are you known by any other names or
- 9 maiden names?
- 10 A. Alexis Hill Foreman.
- 11 Q. And what is your current home address?
- 12 A. 247 Preston Road, Warnersville, PA
- 13 19565.
- 14 Q. Okay. And what, if anything, have you
- 15 done to prepare yourself for today's deposition?
- 16 A. I reviewed all the information on
- 17 file, the EEOC complaint, our position statement,
- 18 and the civil complaint as well.
- 19 Q. Other than reviewing the EEOC
- 20 complaint, the civil complaint, and the EEOC
- 21 response statement from Redner's, did you review
- 22 anything else?
- 23 A. I -- the employment file, Connie's
- 24 employment file, Connie Onley.

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- 1 Q. And when did you review all these
- 2 documents?
- 3 A. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and a little
- 4 bit today.
- 5 Q. When did you review them today?
- 6 A. When did -- I'm sorry, I didn't hear
- 7 you. When did I review them tonight?
- 8 Q. Today, yes.
- 9 A. In between other issues at work.
- 10 Q. Okay. Did you speak with anyone about
- 11 preparing for today's deposition?
- 12 A. I spoke to Jeff Elliott.
- 13 Q. Anyone else?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Did you talk to Karl Michener about
- 16 your deposition today?
- 17 A. I did not.
- 18 Q. Did you talk to Sandra McGrory about
- 19 her deposition?
- 20 A. No, I did not.
- 21 Q. Okay. I apologize, I ask everyone
- 22 this question who I depose. Have you ever been
- 23 convicted of a crime?
- A. No, I have not.

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- 1 Q. All right. You're currently employed
- 2 at Redner's, Miss Foreman?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And what is your current position?
- 5 A. Director of employee relations and
- 6 assistant vice president of human resources.
- 7 Q. Okay. Just to clarify, director of
- 8 employee relations and assistant VP of human
- 9 resources, is that two positions that you hold
- 10 now?
- 11 A. Essentially, I guess you could say
- 12 that.
- MR. OLCESE: Off the record.
- 14 (Discussion held off the Record.)
- 15 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 16 Q. I notice that when you spoke about
- 17 your previous deposition about three to four
- 18 years ago, you stated your position was director
- 19 of employee relations. So is the assistant VP of
- 20 HR something within the last three or four years
- 21 that you obtained?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. When did you become assistant
- 24 VP of HR?

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- 1 A. I don't recall exactly the date. I
- 2 would say somewhere within that timeframe, and it
- 3 has to be at least three years now --
- 4 Q. At least three years?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And I apologize, I didn't mean to cut
- 7 you off. If I did, was there something else you
- 8 wanted to say?
- 9 A. I was going to say I could be -- I
- 10 could have misspoke on the Gretta Slough. It
- 11 could have been five years ago. I truly can't
- 12 remember. It was a while ago.
- 13 Q. Understood. But fair to say you have
- 14 held the roles of director of employee relations
- 15 and assistant VP of HR for at least three years?
- A. Absolutely, yes.
- 17 Q. Certainly through 2020, correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. When did you start working for
- 20 Redner's?
- 21 A. Full time? When I graduated from
- 22 college in 1997.
- Q. And when you started full time 1997,
- 24 what was that first position you were hired into?

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- 1 A. I was hired as an assistant director
- 2 of recruiting in training and education.
- 3 Q. And when did you become director of
- 4 employee relations?
- 5 A. Five or ten years ago, somewhere in
- 6 that timeframe.
- 7 Q. Okay. And like you're doing already,
- 8 obviously some things I'm talking about that are
- 9 multiple years ago, I'm going to soon get
- 10 hopefully more recent, but as best you can, try
- 11 to approximate and narrow down. You know,
- 12 obviously I understand if you can't remember
- 13 certain days, but even like the year might be
- 14 helpful. Okay?
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. When you became director of employee
- 17 relations between 2010 and 2015 approximately,
- 18 where did you work?
- 19 A. Out of the corporate office.
- Q. And where is that corporate office?
- 21 A. In Maiden Creek, Pennsylvania.
- Q. And have you worked out of Maiden
- 23 Creek, PA, the corporate office, since at least
- 24 2015?

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- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Since that time you've never
- 3 worked personally within a store location,
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Okay. Narrowing the time a little
- 7 bit, so I want to focus on second half of 2020 to
- 8 the present. As part of your practice as
- 9 director of employee relations or assistant VP in
- 10 human resources, do you travel to the store
- 11 locations?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. Okay. How often do you travel to
- 14 store locations?
- 15 A. At the minimum, probably six times a
- 16 year at the very minimal. And the reason I say
- 17 that is we have weekend duty and we're scheduled
- 18 five to six weekends a year, which is visiting a
- 19 number of locations throughout the weekend.
- 20 Q. Okay. Currently how many store
- 21 locations does Redner's have?
- 22 A. We have 45 supermarkets, 12
- 23 convenience stores, five pharmacies, and maybe
- 24 eight to 10 kiosks which are like gas stations in

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- 1 front of the store locations.
- Q. Okay. So, am I correct that all those
- 3 locations you just described, you try to travel
- 4 to each one six times per year?
- 5 A. No, we have designated regions that
- 6 we're assigned to based on the weekend.
- 7 Q. Okay. So currently, what is the name
- 8 of your region that you are assigned to?
- 9 A. I have the entire company.
- 10 Q. Okay. So do you travel to all the
- 11 supermarkets and kiosks and pharmacies that you
- 12 described, each location six times per year, or
- 13 do you get to choose which of that total you make
- 14 six visits per year?
- 15 A. I make six visits per year and again,
- 16 that's a minimum. That's just weekend duty. I
- 17 typically go beyond that. But the way the
- 18 weekends works is there's typically five to six
- 19 supervisors on and we select a number of stores.
- 20 It could be six or eight stores a day and we go
- 21 Saturday, and then we pick a different six to
- 22 eight stores on a Sunday.
- Q. And generally when you're visiting
- 24 these stores, like you said, six to eight per

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- 1 day, what is the purpose of it?
- 2 A. So, purpose changed since COVID.
- 3 Prior to COVID we would help with deliveries or
- 4 add-on products. Since then, it has become store
- 5 visits, making sure the operations and the store
- 6 overall, the presentation is good. If there are
- 7 any -- I'm obviously an HR person, so I don't
- 8 focus as much on the operation side. However,
- 9 that -- I still do have to complete store reports
- 10 with each store and evaluating the overall store.
- 11 And then if there's any specific needs, personnel
- 12 needs or employee relations issues, we will
- 13 discuss it at that time.
- 14 Q. Is it fair to say that the major
- 15 purpose or the main purpose of you visiting these
- 16 stores goes towards more your position as
- 17 director of employee relations rather than as the
- 18 assistant VP of HR?
- 19 A. Not necessarily.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. It's really all-encompassing.
- 22 Q. Okay. But is the purpose for like a
- 23 human resources approach where you're reaching
- 24 out to your employees?

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- 1 A. Some of the -- yes, that is part of
- 2 the weekend visit for sure.
- 3 Q. Okay. All right. And in your roles
- 4 currently, who do you report to?
- 5 A. Robert McDonough, who is the vice
- 6 president of human resources.
- 7 Q. Anyone else?
- A. He's my -- he would be the one I would
- 9 say I would report to.
- 10 Q. When did you start reporting to
- 11 Mr. McDonough?
- 12 A. My entire career, he was always my
- 13 boss.
- 14 Q. Okay. Have your job duties changed
- 15 since October of 2020?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Other than the store visits we just
- 18 talked a little bit about, can you generally
- 19 describe what are your job duties in your current
- 20 roles?
- 21 A. Overseeing the human resource
- 22 department as a whole, payroll duties, benefits
- 23 management. I oversee the benefits. Any type of
- 24 employee conflict, employee engagement. Any type

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- 1 of issue, typically I handle most of them.
- Q. Okay. When you said benefits, am I
- 3 correct that part of your job duties are also
- 4 administering any employee request for family
- 5 medical leave or short term disability leave?
- 6 A. Yes, I -- I oversee that process. We
- 7 have a benefits manager that handles that.
- 8 Q. Okay. You oversee the benefits
- 9 manager that would administer FMLA or short term
- 10 disability?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. And employee engagement, we talked
- 13 about also with discipline. When there's ever an
- 14 occasion where an employee is going to be
- 15 issued discipline, do you have to be made aware
- 16 of that before the discipline is issued?
- 17 A. Not necessarily. It depends on the
- 18 severity of the issue.
- 19 Q. Okay. So to your understanding, can a
- 20 store director issue discipline to an employee
- 21 without consulting with you?
- 22 A. On some situations, yes.
- 23 Q. Okay. What -- an example, what are
- 24 situations a store director can do that versus

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- 1 those they cannot?
- 2 A. I would -- an example would be if
- 3 someone were absent from work on a regular basis,
- 4 and our handbook states more than one absence per
- 5 month is considered excessive. They would not
- 6 have to ask me to write someone up for excessive
- 7 absenteeism.
- 8 Q. Okay. And what's an example of some
- 9 kind of infraction they would need to contact you
- 10 for and get consultation on?
- 11 A. Performance-related issues,
- 12 harassment-related issues, any type of complaint,
- 13 they usually seek advice on those matters.
- 14 Q. Now, just to clarify, you say they
- 15 usually seek advice, meaning the store directors,
- 16 but that's not the same as they have to. So is
- 17 it your understanding per Redner's policy that a
- 18 store director looking to discipline an employee
- 19 for harassment-related reasons,
- 20 performance-related reasons, do they need to
- 21 consultant with you before doing so?
- 22 A. Harassment, yes. Performance-related,
- 23 not necessarily.
- Q. And is it your understanding that the

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- 1 store directors can make the decision to
- 2 terminate an employee without consulting with you
- 3 first?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. So every employee termination
- 6 has to go through your office; is that right?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. And then am I correct that you make
- 9 the decision if an employee will be terminated or
- 10 not?
- 11 A. Myself and my boss, Bob McDonough, and
- 12 Randy Kostelac. The three of us are capable of
- 13 making those decisions.
- 14 Q. Okay. The second individual, you said
- 15 Randy, what's this person's last name?
- 16 A. Kostelac. K-O-S-T-E-L-A-C.
- 17 Q. And what is his position?
- 18 A. Director of training and education.
- 19 Q. And do you have the ability to
- 20 terminate an employee without first consulting
- 21 with either Mr. Kostelac or Mr. McDonough?
- 22 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. All right. But to your
- 24 understanding, if a store director was consulting

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- 1 with human resources to make a recommendation
- 2 whether an employee should be terminated or not,
- 3 they have to go through either yourself,
- 4 Mr. McDonough or Mr. Kostelac?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Okay. When is the last time you had
- 7 visited the Audubon store location?
- 8 A. I believe the last weekend I worked,
- 9 which was a month ago.
- 10 Q. Okay. Prior to that visit, when was
- 11 the next most recent time to Audubon?
- 12 A. It was within a few months.
- 13 Q. Okay. So, fair to assume every couple
- 14 of months you're at least making your rounds to
- 15 most, if not all the stores?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. So did you ever visit Audubon in 2020?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. All right. Then I presume
- 20 during her employment, you had the opportunity to
- 21 meet Miss Onley?
- 22 A. I've met Miss Onley, yes.
- Q. I understand that she worked for
- 24 Redner's for a few years prior to her separation.

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- 1 Do you know when she started working for
- 2 Redner's?
- 3 A. October 2017.
- 4 Q. And were you part of her hiring at
- 5 all?
- 6 A. I was not.
- 7 Q. You didn't interview her, correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Okay. And I understand she started
- 10 working at the Lansdale location?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. When do you recall meeting Miss Onley
- 13 for the first time?
- 14 A. I believe it was around March of 2019.
- 15 Q. And this encounter where you met Miss
- 16 Onley in March of 2019, was it, for lack of a
- 17 better term, by chance because it was just a
- 18 visit you were making to the store or was there a
- 19 specific reason you were going to meet her?
- 20 A. It was a scheduled meeting.
- Q. What was that scheduled meeting about?
- 22 A. Store director Steve DiGiorgio reached
- 23 out to me, saying that there was some ongoing,
- 24 how would I put it, ongoing concern between Dave

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- 1 Goodman and Connie Onley, and that she is
- 2 struggling to work with him amicably,
- 3 essentially. And he had told me that they had
- 4 met before and he was seeking my advice and asked
- 5 for me to come to the store for a meeting.
- 6 Q. Okay. And Dave Goodman, it's my
- 7 understanding he is the meat department manager
- 8 at the Lansdowne location as of this time that
- 9 we're talking about?
- MR. ELLIOTT: Object to form. Go
- 11 ahead, you can answer.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't know if
- he is a manager at this time honestly. I
- 14 know at the time he was not.
- 15 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 16 Q. Oh. What position then did
- 17 Mr. Goodman hold as of March 2019?
- 18 A. He was a meat cutter.
- 19 Q. Okay. But Mr. DeGeorgio was the store
- 20 director at Lansdale?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. And did Mr. DeGeorgio go into
- 23 any more specifics about why Miss Onley and why
- 24 Mr. Goodman, as you say, were not working

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- 1 amicably?
- 2 A. I don't recall specifically. I think
- 3 it had more to do with performance issues.
- 4 Q. Was it your understanding that at this
- 5 time Mr. Goodman was Miss Onley's supervisor?
- 6 A. The store manager, Mr. Ciaccio would
- 7 have been her direct report. On his days off it
- 8 would have been Dave Goodman.
- 9 Q. You said Mr. Ciaccio. I thought it
- 10 was Mr. DeGeorgio who was the store director.
- 11 A. Her direct report would be her meat
- 12 manager. That would be her direct report. The
- 13 next level would be the store director.
- 14 Q. Okay. And who was her direct report,
- 15 the department manager?
- 16 A. Mr. Ciaccio.
- 17 Q. Do you know how to spell that?
- 18 A. I believe it's C-I-A-C-C-I-O.
- 19 Q. Okay. And was Mr. Ciaccio, was he a
- 20 part of the meeting when you arrived in March of
- 21 2019?
- 22 A. He was.
- 23 Q. Okay. So who participated in that
- 24 meeting?

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- 1 A. Myself, Dave Kehm, who was a meat
- 2 supervisor, Steve DeGeorgio, and Connie Onley, as
- 3 well as Dave Goodman.
- 4 Q. And what was discussed?
- 5 A. Initially I had brought Connie in. I
- 6 wanted to meet her and get an understanding of
- 7 her complaints. And at that time, she discussed
- 8 with me she felt that she was being mistreated
- 9 because she was female and that Dave was treating
- 10 her differently.
- 11 Q. Did she give examples or descriptions
- 12 of how she believed she was being treated
- 13 differently because she was female?
- 14 A. She was stating, if I recall
- 15 correctly, he was not happy with her performance
- 16 and was pointing out errors she was making, and
- 17 that no one else was getting these errors pointed
- 18 out to them, and she felt that it was because she
- 19 was female. And he would raise his voice and get
- 20 frustrated with her.
- Q. Okay. And did she express the errors
- 22 that were being pointed out to her regarding her
- 23 performance that was being presented to her by
- 24 Mr. DeGeorgio?

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- 1 A. I'm sorry.
- Q. Or Mr. Goodman?
- A. These errors were being pointed out to
- 4 her by Mr. Goodman.
- 5 Q. Okay. And she was expressing to you
- 6 in this meeting, at least, you know, initially,
- 7 that she felt that this was unfair based on
- 8 Mr. Goodman's actions?
- 9 A. Based on what he was saying to her and
- 10 trying to correct.
- 11 Q. Okay. Okay. And then after speaking
- 12 with her, is that where all the other -- excuse
- 13 me -- all the other participants came in and you
- 14 guys had a meeting about what was discussed?
- 15 A. Steve DeGeorgio and Dave Kehm were
- 16 present with the meat manager Anthony Ciaccio
- 17 during that initial conversation with Miss Onley.
- 18 After I understood her complaint, I asked her if
- 19 she would be comfortable if we brought Dave back
- 20 to discuss it because I felt like it was
- 21 something that we could work out. And she agreed
- 22 to that.
- Q. Okay. And then what happened when you
- 24 brought Mr. Goodman in to participate as well?

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- 1 A. He admitted that he had raised his
- 2 voice and confronted her about errors she was
- 3 making. I did not -- based on his explanation,
- 4 he was merely pointing out her errors and
- 5 expiration dates, you know, coding with the meat
- 6 wrapper and the labels. He also wasn't happy
- 7 that she spent a lot of time on the floor talking
- 8 to customers. And those behaviors is what he was
- 9 trying to correct. We came to the conclusion
- 10 that probably he could have used a better
- 11 technique to conversate that with her. He seemed
- 12 to get loud. However, at that time he said it
- 13 was never anything based on her gender. It was
- 14 just merely he wanted to correct the behavior
- 15 because it was a busy department and he was
- 16 getting frustrated by her errors.
- 17 Q. So, after meeting that you just
- 18 described, was Mr. Goodman ever issued any form
- 19 of discipline as a result of that meeting?
- 20 A. No, he was not.
- 21 Q. And was Miss Onley ever issued any
- 22 form of discipline for bringing that complaint to
- 23 your attention?
- A. No, she was not.

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- 1 Q. Okay. So after that conversation that
- 2 we just described, was there anything else done
- 3 on your end as part of any investigation into
- 4 Miss Onley's complaints?
- 5 A. At that time it wasn't necessary. The
- 6 way the meeting ended was that they understood --
- 7 had a better understanding of each other and
- 8 where each of them was coming from; meaning Dave
- 9 understood how Connie was feeling, the way he
- 10 tried to correct the behavior was not comfortable
- 11 with her, and he understood that and he realized
- 12 he could do better. She appreciated that. And
- 13 they basically shook hands and said, let's move
- 14 forward, we can -- we don't have to like each
- 15 other but we can work together amicably. And
- 16 that was the agreement.
- 17 Q. Understood. Okay. And the next few
- 18 months from March of 2019 until approximately
- 19 October of 2019, did you ever come to learn of
- 20 any other complaints or issues from Miss Onley at
- 21 the Lansdale location?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. Did you ever come to learn of any
- 24 complaints or issues from March of 2019 until

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- 1 October of 2019 about Miss Onley?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. From anyone else, is what I'm asking.
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. So your understanding was after
- 6 that meeting, discussing everything out, that
- 7 nothing further happened regarding her complaints
- 8 at Lansdale, correct?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. All right. After that meeting, did
- 11 you ever return and visit Lansdale while Miss
- 12 Onley worked there?
- 13 A. I'm sure I did.
- Q. Okay. Can you remember specifically
- 15 between March and October of '19, 2019, whenever
- 16 that may have occurred?
- 17 A. No. I would assume on one of my
- 18 weekend visits at the very least.
- 19 Q. Do you remember, though, any of those
- 20 weekend visits, if you, you know, made an effort
- 21 to speak to Miss Onley if she was working, to
- 22 kind of follow up with her to see how she was
- 23 doing?
- 24 A. I always walk through the store and

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- 1 make sure I greet everyone in the store as best I
- 2 can, yes. I don't recall seeing her, no, or
- 3 having a conversation.
- 4 Q. You don't remember having like a
- 5 follow-up conversation with Miss Onley after the
- 6 meeting in March, correct?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Okay. All right. And then I
- 9 understand that around October 2019, Miss Onley
- 10 was transferred from Lansdale to the Audubon
- 11 location, correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. And that's when the Audubon location I
- 14 believe was opening?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. How did it come to be that Miss Onley
- 17 transferred to Audubon, to your knowledge?
- 18 A. I got an e-mail from the store from
- 19 Steve DeGeorgio, from the store, suggesting that
- 20 Connie Onley became aware of the new fresh
- 21 market. It was very inviting for people, it was
- 22 something exciting and new for us. We
- 23 communicated that throughout the company. And
- 24 she was always very good at customer service and

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- 1 we were -- our culture, we were shifting our
- 2 culture to really focus on that with this new
- 3 store. And she requested to transfer to the meat
- 4 department. We had a lot of specialties and the
- 5 seafood is where she wanted to go. So she
- 6 requested that. And typically those requests
- 7 have to be approved by HR as well as the meat
- 8 supervisor, Dave Kehm, to make sure that we have
- 9 the adequate staffing. And both of us
- 10 immediately said she'd be perfect and we agreed
- 11 with the transfer.
- 12 Q. So when you say we agreed, does that
- 13 mean specifically yourself and Mr. Kehm approved
- 14 that transfer?
- 15 A. Correct. And Randy Kostelac is
- 16 involved with staffing for new stores, the
- 17 director of training and education, so we also
- 18 asked his advice and he agreed to it as well.
- 19 Q. Did you have to consult with anyone
- 20 else at the Lansdale location to get their input
- 21 or feedback about the transfer request?
- 22 A. Yes, absolutely. I talked to Steve
- 23 because we don't -- what we consider is we don't
- 24 want to transfer a problem. So if there is an

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- 1 individual who has been excessively disciplined
- 2 or has, you know, absenteeism issues, things like
- 3 that, I just wanted to make sure she was doing
- 4 well in the department and he said everything's
- 5 been fine and I think she'd be great. So, with
- 6 that, we all agreed that she should be
- 7 transferred.
- Q. And did you ever come to learn while
- 9 working at Lansdale whether or not Miss Onley
- 10 had, as you say, a discipline problem or a
- 11 history of receiving discipline?
- 12 A. At Lansdale she did not.
- Q. Okay. And as part of that transfer,
- 14 did you consult with any of the new members of
- 15 management that would be stepping in at the
- 16 Audubon location about her request?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Okay. So the management that was put
- 19 in place at Audubon for its opening, they had no
- 20 say whatsoever on who, including Miss Onley,
- 21 would be transferred to that location?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. Okay. When Miss Onley was transferred
- 24 to the Audubon location, I understand she still

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- 1 worked in the meat department as a meat wrapper.
- 2 On any of your weekend visits or any other
- 3 visits, do you recall going to visit and speak
- 4 with Miss Onley?
- 5 A. I don't recall specifically. What I
- 6 can say is if I did see her, I didn't have an
- 7 all-out conversation. I would have just said
- 8 hello, how are you doing today. That's typically
- 9 what I do unless I'm confronted with something,
- 10 which I was not.
- 11 Q. Do you remember at any point from
- 12 October 2019 until October '20, visiting the
- 13 Audubon location specifically because you had to
- 14 meet with Miss Onley?
- 15 A. I did not do that, no.
- 16 Q. And I understand that during their
- 17 time working at the Audubon location, you came to
- 18 learn of a number of occurrences related to Miss
- 19 Onley's health that were concerning to some
- 20 members of management; is that right?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Just -- the volume was low; was that a
- 23 yes or a no?
- A. Sorry, that was a yes.

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- 1 Q. No problem. So when is the first time
- 2 you came to learn anything about Miss Onley's
- 3 health while working at the Audubon location?
- 4 A. I would say late May, early June of
- 5 2020. I received an e-mail correspondence from
- 6 Mr. Michener.
- 7 Q. And what did that e-mail
- 8 correspondence say?
- 9 A. He had just been concerned with her
- 10 health at that time.
- 11 Q. Did he describe what was going on or
- 12 why he had concerns about her health?
- 13 A. I know he talked about blackout. I
- 14 don't know if it was in that first e-mail or that
- 15 came later in August. I can't recall. But I
- 16 know that there were some issues initially -- oh,
- 17 you know what, I remember now.
- 18 So in -- I'm sorry. In late May,
- 19 early June, it was during COVID and she was
- 20 experiencing a lot of absenteeism if she was --
- 21 due to her not feeling well. And he -- and we
- 22 had a COVID protocol where, you know, if you had
- 23 COVID, there was specific guidelines you had to
- 24 follow. But if you had any type of illness, you

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- 1 had to be symptom and fever-free for 24 hours
- 2 upon returning. And he was worried that he would
- 3 have to put a COVID form in for her, but it was
- 4 something separate and he was asking how to
- 5 handle that. That was the initial e-mail.
- 6 Q. Okay. And during the onset of the
- 7 COVID-19 pandemic, I'll say around March 2020,
- 8 Redner's stayed open obviously because it's a
- 9 necessary grocery store, correct?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Did you ever come to learn, or
- 12 Mr. Michener share with you, that the health
- 13 concerns Miss Onley was suffering from were
- 14 related to her hypertension and high blood
- 15 pressure?
- 16 A. I do recall that, yes.
- 17 Q. Did he tell you that in the e-mail or
- 18 do you remember him informing you of that some
- 19 other means, maybe on the phone?
- 20 A. I believe it was over the phone. I
- 21 don't know that that was ever sent in e-mail.
- 22 Q. Okay. But you two would have
- 23 discussions over the phone where it sounds like
- 24 he would reach out to you for consultation on

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1	what to do to address her health concerns?
2	MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
3	BY MR. OLCESE:
4	Q. You can answer.
5	A. Yes, that's correct.
6	Q. Okay. And during these discussions
7	with Mr. Michener, was the subject of the
8	discussion pretty much how to accommodate Miss
9	Onley if she needed to take like a leave of
10	absence from work?
11	MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
12	THE WITNESS: I can answer?
13	MR. ELLIOTT: Yes.
14	THE WITNESS: Sorry. So, it the
15	way the conversations went is that we were
16	concerned with her overall health and that
17	we thought if she is experiencing health
18	issues, would it make sense for her to
19	take an FMLA. If she's missing time, she
20	has potentially could lose her job if
21	she misses too much time according to our
22	handbook. So that the FMLA would be
23	there, so if she needed to take time off
24	to get herself healthy, it would be an

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approved leave, she would be eligible for 1 2 pay, things like that. 3 So I had asked Mr. Michener to 4 communicate that to her. Some employees 5 don't know that they would be eligible for 6 this and how FMLA works. Her response was 7 she didn't want to take it, she liked 8 coming to work, she would be lonely. 9 Unfortunately her husband passed and this was her main focus. And so the agreement 10 11 was that if you need time or to work 12 around doctors schedules, we'll do 13 whatever you need to do. But beyond that, 14 there were no requests for accommodations. 15 BY MR. OLCESE: 16 So she never requested time off from 17 work either, for instance, under the FMLA or 18 maybe like short term disability? 19 Α. Correct. 20 MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form. 21 You can answer. 22 THE WITNESS: Yeah, she never did. 23 And we offered it to her. 24 BY MR. OLCESE:

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- 1 Q. And when you say you offered it to
- 2 her -- well, let's just do the first question.
- 3 When was it offered to her?
- 4 A. August of 2020.
- 5 Q. And who would be the one offering it
- 6 to her?
- 7 A. I asked Karl to have a conversation
- 8 with her, letting her know that she was eligible
- 9 and she could take an FMLA if she chose to.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. And she declined.
- 12 Q. Do you remember yourself or anyone
- 13 else in the human resources department ever
- 14 submitting FMLA paperwork to Miss Onley?
- 15 A. No. That's upon request. She did not
- 16 request it and we don't send it out.
- 17 Q. Okay. Was it to your knowledge,
- 18 though, that as of August 2020 she was eligible
- 19 for FMLA if she requested it?
- 20 A. Yes, she was.
- 21 Q. Okay. All right. So, Mr. Michener
- 22 brings, you know, health concerns he has with
- 23 Miss Onley to your attention around June 2020.
- 24 You have subsequent conversations that lead you

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- 1 to around August 2020. Do you remember any other
- 2 written communications about Miss Onley's health
- 3 between June and August of 2020?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. I understand that Miss Onley
- 6 was separated sometime early October 2020. Does
- 7 that sound accurate to you?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you know what -- if you know
- 10 specifically, what date was her termination date?
- 11 A. 10/5/2019 -- I'm sorry, 2020.
- 12 Q. Okay. And you said that -- I jumped
- 13 the gun and I said terminated. I'm correct it
- 14 was an involuntary separation, correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Okay. And who made the decision to
- 17 terminate Miss Onley?
- 18 A. I did.
- 19 Q. Okay. And did you make that in
- 20 consultation with either Mr. McDonough or
- 21 Mr. Kostelac?
- 22 A. I did discuss it with Mr. McDonough,
- 23 yes.
- Q. Okay. And when did you first discuss

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- 1 it with Mr. McDonough?
- 2 A. I would say potentially between
- 3 August -- I'm sorry, October 1st and October 5th
- 4 when we received the first statement from Miss
- 5 McGrory.
- 6 Q. So it's your understanding that
- 7 Miss McGrory's statement was provided October 1,
- 8 2020; does that sound right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And -- well, if her last day of
- 11 employment or her termination notice was October
- 12 5, 2020, do you believe you made the decision to
- 13 terminate Miss Onley on October 5th?
- 14 A. I believe it was October 7th. I
- 15 believe it was the following Monday, if I'm not
- 16 mistaken. I know it was the 7th, though. That
- 17 was the date of the termination record.
- 18 Q. Right. But do you believe you made
- 19 the decision to terminate Miss Onley prior to the
- 20 record of -- that you're describing on October
- 21 7th?
- 22 A. Honestly I don't know. It was either
- 23 the 5th or the 7th. I don't know.
- Q. Okay. And in reaching that decision,

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- 1 how did you first come to learn to know that
- 2 there was a possible incident or infraction
- 3 pertaining to Miss Onley?
- 4 A. I believe the first I was aware of it
- 5 was when I received the statement on October 1st.
- 6 Or shortly there before, Karl was e-mailing me
- 7 that he had an issue and I asked him to get
- 8 statements and send them to me. So, around that
- 9 time.
- 10 Q. Okay. So it started with Mr. Michener
- 11 e-mailing you about an issue, he was looking for
- 12 I guess advice from you, you said get statements,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. And did he tell you what the incident
- 16 was about or who it was pertaining to?
- 17 A. He just said it was a sexual
- 18 harassment issue and he didn't say initially. It
- 19 was between -- I was juggling a couple things at
- 20 the time, so he was keeping it short.
- 21 Q. Okay. But you recall receiving an
- 22 e-mail, like the first time you learned about
- 23 anything between Miss Onley that led to her
- 24 termination, an e-mail from Mr. Michener saying

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- 1 he needed your advice because it involved sexual
- 2 harassment?
- 3 A. I don't recall specifically what it
- 4 said. I believe he just said an issue. I don't
- 5 know if it said harassment or sexual harassment.
- 6 I honestly don't know. We do a lot of statements
- 7 for a variety of reasons and for a variety of
- 8 issues so I can get a better understanding of
- 9 what's going on in the store.
- 10 Q. And this e-mail provided by
- 11 Mr. Michener -- I'm just trying to go
- 12 chronologically so I understand it. Am I correct
- 13 if -- he e-mailed you about advice prior to you
- 14 seeing any statement from any witness about the
- 15 alleged event?
- 16 A. Yes, I believe that's how it worked in
- 17 that case. That's typical.
- 18 Q. Right. So he'd tell you something is
- 19 going on and then you advised him, get statements
- 20 from the witnesses and then let me know how it's
- 21 going, so to speak?
- 22 A. Get statements from the witnesses and
- 23 then we'll discuss it. That's typically how it
- 24 goes, yes.

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- 1 Q. Okay. And you believe this all
- 2 started October 1, 2020?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. All right. Okay. And then after
- 5 that, did Mr. Michener ever provide you with
- 6 statements that he had gathered?
- 7 A. He gathered Sandra McGrory's on
- 8 October 1st. And then I asked if there were any
- 9 other witnesses and Mr. Shaun Rhoton was also
- 10 stated, so I asked him to speak with Mr. Rhoton
- 11 as well.
- 12 Q. And did Mr. Rhoton provide a statement
- 13 as well?
- 14 A. He did.
- 15 Q. Did you review that as well?
- 16 A. I did.
- 17 Q. Okay. Did Mr. Michener inform you
- 18 that he spoke with anyone other than Miss McGrory
- 19 and Mr. Rhoton?
- 20 A. I believe he spoke with the store --
- 21 excuse me -- the meat manager as well,
- 22 Mr. Mercon.
- Q. Mercon? Okay. Do you know if
- 24 Mr. Mercon provided a statement?

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- 1 A. He did not.
- Q. Okay. Did you inform Mr. Michener to
- 3 speak to Miss Onley about what happened?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. Did he provide a statement from
- 6 Miss Onley?
- 7 A. She did not write a statement. We
- 8 asked her to. She chose not to.
- 9 Q. Did Mr. Michener inform you whether or
- 10 not he had a discussion personally with Miss
- 11 Onley about what happened?
- 12 A. Yes, he did.
- 13 Q. Okay. And what did he share with you
- 14 regarding that discussion with her?
- 15 A. That she admitted to talking about
- 16 using a sex toy, otherwise known as a dildo, in
- 17 the meat department to Sandra McGrory.
- 18 Q. Did she admit to when she admitted to
- 19 using a dildo, like when that conversation took
- 20 place with Miss McGrory?
- MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- You can answer.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I believe she said it
- 24 was ongoing. I don't -- I know there were

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- 1 some dates in September that were pointed
- 2 out, but they had brought up the
- 3 conversation again with this 50 Shades of
- 4 Gray movie that they discussed, which was
- 5 the recent episode.
- 6 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 7 Q. Okay. And was it shared to you that
- 8 Miss Onley said that both her and Miss McGrory
- 9 were fans and watched 50 Shades of Gray?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And did Mr. Michener share with you
- 12 that Miss Onley stated that talks about a dildo
- 13 were initiated and started by Miss McGrory?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. So to your understanding from
- 16 Mr. Michener, Miss Onley admitted that she
- 17 brought up talks of a dildo in the first place on
- 18 her own; is that accurate?
- 19 A. That they had conversations, but that
- 20 the dildo particularly was her conversation.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- 22 A. Miss Onley's.
- Q. All right. And I know the answer to
- 24 this but I have to ask it for the record.

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- 1 Obviously the incident we're describing between
- 2 Miss McGrory and Miss Onley, you were not present
- 3 for, correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. Okay. And you were getting all of
- 6 your information from Mr. Michener?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Was there anyone else at the Audubon
- 9 location providing you information about this
- 10 incident other than Mr. Michener?
- 11 A. Mr. Rhoton's statement as well.
- 12 Q. Okay. Did you ever speak to Mr. James
- 13 Schlegel about this incident?
- 14 A. I may have. I don't recall.
- 15 Q. Okay. So I understand that an
- 16 altercation occurred between Miss Onley and
- 17 Miss McGrory on October 1, 2020. Does that sound
- 18 accurate to you?
- 19 A. I -- I wouldn't describe it as an
- 20 altercation.
- 21 Q. Okay. Where they had a heated
- 22 exchange where they were yelling at each other or
- 23 something?
- 24 A. My understanding was that Sandra got

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- 1 very upset because Miss Onley would not leave her
- 2 alone, and yet she did respond and she was
- 3 yelling, yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. And you understand that that
- 5 exchange, I'll just say --
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. -- happened on October 1, 2020?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. And did you ever come to learn
- 10 during that exchange whether there was any
- 11 discussions between Miss McGrory and Miss Onley
- 12 that related to a dildo or 50 Shades of Gray or
- 13 any of that sexual nature content?
- 14 A. I'm sorry, can you say that again?
- 15 Q. Yeah. So the exchange that we're
- 16 trying to talk about on October 1, 2020 from Miss
- 17 McGrory and Miss Onley, did you ever come to
- 18 learn that during that exchange, whether there
- 19 was any discussions about 50 Shades of Gray, a
- 20 dildo or anything sexual in nature?
- 21 A. I'm not sure I'm -- I'm not sure I'm
- 22 hearing your question. Are you asking me if I
- 23 was aware of any further discussion or previous
- 24 discussion, is that what your question is?

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- 1 Q. Yeah, so I guess -- let me try to make
- 2 it more clear if I can.
- The exchange on October 1, 2020,
- 4 what is your understanding was discussed that led
- 5 to Miss Onley and Miss McGrory's actions that day
- 6 that led to the statement?
- 7 A. My understanding is that she
- 8 discussed -- she -- Miss Onley brought up the 50
- 9 Shades of Gray movie and Miss McGrory responded
- 10 with that, yeah, that's my second favorite movie
- 11 or something like that. And then Miss Onley went
- 12 on to suggest because of the mood that the movie
- 13 put her in, because she doesn't -- her husband is
- 14 no longer there, that she had to use this dildo
- 15 for that reason. And Miss McGrory did not really
- 16 feel comfortable having that conversation. She
- 17 was like, all right, enough. And then later on
- 18 it was brought up again that, something about how
- 19 she's supposed to clean it, she made a joke about
- 20 it. And I think Miss McGrory just had enough.
- 21 She was -- did not want to discuss it any
- 22 further.
- Q. And those discussions you just
- 24 described, to your knowledge that all occurred on

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- 1 October 1, 2020?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Do you remember anything else being
- 4 brought up on October 1, 2020 that was discussed
- 5 between Miss Onley and Miss McGrory?
- 6 A. Yes. There was also questions about
- 7 religious and, I think, you know, the election,
- 8 those types of conversations. Political
- 9 discussions is also what was brought up.
- 10 Q. Do you remember anything more specific
- 11 than just religious or political conversations?
- 12 A. The Trump -- I guess Miss McGrory
- 13 likes Trump and Miss Onley does not. Miss Onley
- 14 suggested that Miss McGrory did not believe in
- 15 Black Lives Matter. Those types of
- 16 conversations, yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. All right. And did you ever
- 18 come to learn that from that exchange, Miss
- 19 McGrory used the F word, specifically telling
- 20 Miss Onley to stay the fuck away from her?
- 21 A. Yeah, I was not aware of that. I did
- 22 learn that later.
- Q. When did you learn that?
- A. I'm sorry?

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- 1 Q. When did you learn that?
- 2 A. I don't know. After the fact. I
- 3 don't really know exactly when, but I didn't know
- 4 that at the time.
- 5 Q. Okay. Do you remember participating
- 6 in an unemployment hearing for Miss Onley a
- 7 couple months ago?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you remember if you learned that
- 10 Miss McGrory said those words before that
- 11 unemployment hearing?
- 12 A. I don't believe so, no.
- 13 Q. Okay. And did you ever come to learn
- 14 that during their exchange, that Miss McGrory,
- 15 who was at a dish -- like a sink, threw a pot?
- 16 A. That's not how it was described.
- 17 Q. How was it described?
- 18 A. She got frustrated, had a pot in her
- 19 hand, the sink was full of dishes, she threw it
- 20 in and like, I'm out of here, I'm leaving, and it
- 21 exploded with bubbles.
- 22 Q. So she did throw a pot, right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q Okay. And when did you first --

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- 1 A. And I was explaining the method of the
- 2 pot, not just throwing a pot across the room to
- 3 hit a wall, yeah.
- 4 Q. Right. So when did you first come to
- 5 learn that she threw a pot during this exchange
- 6 on October 1, 2020?
- 7 A. I don't know.
- 8 Q. Do you remember if you learned that
- 9 during the investigation, before Miss Onley was
- 10 terminated?
- 11 A. I did not.
- 12 Q. Okay. So it happened after Miss
- 13 Onley's termination, right?
- 14 A. (Indicating).
- 15 Q. Do you know if you learned that during
- 16 the unemployment hearing that you participated
- 17 in?
- 18 A. I did not know that then, no.
- 19 Q. Okay. Okay. Let's see. Do you
- 20 remember prior to October 1, 2020, receiving any
- 21 complaints at the Audubon location about Miss
- 22 Onley?
- A. I did not.
- Q. Okay. Do you remember being made

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- 1 aware of any complaints from Miss McGrory at the
- 2 Audubon location prior to October 1, 2020 about
- 3 anyone else?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 (Brief recess.)
- 6 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 7 Q. Miss Foreman, we're back on the record
- 8 after a short break. I want to show you the
- 9 first exhibit today. I'm going to share my
- 10 screen. Jeff has hard copies I'm sure of the
- 11 ones I'm going to share. If you prefer looking
- 12 at that that he provides you, that's fine. If
- 13 you want to look at the screen, anything I show
- 14 you, please let me know if you want me to scroll
- 15 up or down so you can read it better, or zoom in
- 16 and zoom out. Okay?
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 (Document being shown.)
- 19 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 20 Q. All right, Miss Foreman. I'm sharing
- 21 my screen with an exhibit marked D-5. This is a
- 22 four-page exhibit. Bates stamped, which is a
- 23 reference for legal purposes in litigation, this
- one is marked KS317 and then it goes

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- 1 consecutively until KS320 on the bottom right
- 2 there. Okay?
- A. Okay.
- 4 Q. So this is a four-page document. And
- 5 I'm happy to scroll up and down throughout if
- 6 you'd like to review the whole thing. Just let
- 7 me know.
- But my first question is for you,
- 9 when you have a chance to look at this, do you
- 10 recognize this document?
- 11 A. I do.
- 12 Q. So what is this document?
- 13 A. It's Sandra McGrory's statement.
- 14 Q. Okay. And on the top it's dated
- 15 October 1, 2020, correct?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. And is this an accurate copy of the
- 18 document that Mr. Michener forwarded to you on
- 19 October 1, 2020?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. So you got this statement, you
- 22 got Mr. Rhoton's statement, and you got
- 23 Mr. Mercon's statement, correct?
- 24 A. I didn't get a statement from

R&K Reporting Inc.

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- 1 Mr. Mercon.
- Q. Okay. So just this statement and
- 3 Mr. Rhoton, correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. All right. And when you received it,
- 6 you had a chance to read it and review it,
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. So after you had a chance to do that,
- 10 what did you do next in terms of the
- 11 investigation? Did you reach back out to
- 12 Mr. Michener?
- 13 A. Yes. Initially once I received Miss
- 14 McGrory's statement, I asked him if there was
- 15 anyone else that may have overheard these
- 16 conversations. And he agreed, I believe it may
- 17 be in here, that Shaun was -- Mr. Rhoton was also
- 18 in the department at the time. And I asked that
- 19 he bring Mr. Rhoton in, have a conversation and
- 20 ask him to write a statement, and he did that.
- 21 Q. Okay. Okay. And at any point during,
- 22 I'll just describe it as an investigation, did
- 23 you personally speak with Miss McGrory?
- 24 A. No.

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- 1 Q. At any point did you personally speak
- 2 with Mr. Rhoton during the investigation?
- 3 A. No, sir.
- 4 Q. Okay. Did you ever personally speak
- 5 with Miss Onley during the investigation?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Okay. And obviously you never
- 8 obtained any of the statements, you received them
- 9 from Mr. Michener?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Fair to say then that the
- 12 investigation was conducted by Mr. Michener and
- 13 he reported the results to you?
- 14 A. Correct, that would be fair, yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And other than what you already
- 16 described and we spoke about, where you called
- 17 Mr. Michener to get the statements after he
- 18 reached out to you initially about what was going
- 19 on, do you remember having any other
- 20 conversations or communications with Mr. Michener
- 21 later that day, October 1, 2020, after you
- 22 received all the statements?
- 23 A. I don't know if it was October 1st. I
- 24 just remember it being a very busy time. It may

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- 1 have been a day or two later.
- Q. Okay. All right. So what you're
- 3 thinking of, though, what do you remember
- 4 speaking with Mr. Michener about when you did
- 5 talk to him after you had all the statements?
- 6 A. I asked him to bring Miss Onley in and
- 7 present her with the complaints.
- 8 Q. Okay. And it was your understanding
- 9 Mr. Michener did that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. And then subsequently,
- 12 Mr. Michener informed you of what Miss Onley had
- 13 admitted to or said happened, correct?
- 14 A. Correct. And I asked for a statement.
- 15 And he said she was not willing to write a
- 16 statement.
- 17 Q. Okay. So at that point, what did you
- 18 and either Mr. Michener or anyone else involved
- 19 with that investigation do?
- 20 A. I read over the material, I discussed
- 21 it with Mr. Michener, and I also discussed it
- 22 with Mr. McDonough.
- 23 Q. So did the three of you discuss it
- 24 over like a conference call?

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- 1 A. No. First I discussed it with
- 2 Mr. Michener and then I walked across the hall
- 3 and discussed all of the information with
- 4 Mr. McDonough.
- 5 Q. Okay. And the discussion you first
- 6 had with Mr. Michener, am I correct you discussed
- 7 with him, I guess what type of discipline Miss
- 8 Onley or Miss McGrory would receive for this?
- 9 MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes, I did.
- 11 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 12 Q. Okay. And generally describe, what
- 13 did you talk about in that regard? What do you
- 14 remember?
- 15 A. I talked specifically about the --
- 16 what I remember is talking specifically about the
- 17 fact that this -- this sexual harassment type
- 18 information. And that she admitted to having
- 19 that conversation with Miss -- excuse me, I'm
- 20 sorry -- Miss Onley had suggested this
- 21 conversation with the dildo, the washing, and
- 22 Miss McGrory repeatedly asked her to stop and she
- 23 continued with it and was not comfortable with
- 24 it. And those types of conversations and

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- 1 potentially the joke where she was going to put
- 2 the dildo in another employee's pocket in a meat
- 3 department, is completely inappropriate and
- 4 there's just no place for it in the workplace.
- 5 Q. And at that time Mr. Michener
- 6 recommended that she be terminated?
- 7 MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- 8 THE WITNESS: He did not. He
- 9 basically said, I don't know where to go
- 10 with this, it is bad. And I said,
- 11 unfortunately, the only -- this is how we
- 12 handle these situations. It's
- inappropriate, she's aware of it, it's in
- the handbook, and we don't tolerate this
- 15 type of behavior. And more than once she
- had spoken about it and was asked to stop.
- 17 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 18 Q. Well, when you say more than once she
- 19 was asked to stop, what are you referring to?
- 20 A. Miss McGrory saying, I don't want to
- 21 hear it, and then her continuing.
- 22 Q. Okay. So the only evidence that you
- 23 had relying on that she was told previously and
- 24 asked to stop is just from Miss McGrory herself,

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- 1 correct?
- 2 A. I'm not sure about that. I don't --
- 3 and I don't know that that would have been
- 4 something that would be -- that would change our
- 5 decision to terminate or not. The fact that she
- 6 said it in general, and admitted to it, and is
- 7 aware of our sexual harassment policy, and the
- 8 fact that she was talking about bringing a dildo
- 9 to work, is just completely inappropriate.
- 10 Q. Okay. So during that conversation,
- 11 did you inform Mr. Michener that you were going
- 12 to terminate Miss Onley?
- 13 A. During that conversation I took it and
- 14 said, this is where I'm thinking I'm going, I'm
- 15 going to verify that with my boss. And that's
- 16 exactly what I did.
- Q. Was there any discussions brought up
- 18 about issuing Miss Onley a lesser form of
- 19 discipline rather than termination?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. And why not?
- 22 A. We felt that it reached that level of
- 23 termination.
- Q. And when you say we --

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- 1 A. I brought -- we -- so I brought it
- 2 across the hall and asked -- I showed my boss all
- 3 of the information. He said, completely agree,
- 4 there's no other way, you need to terminate her.
- 5 Q. And you say Mr. McDonough is who you
- 6 consulted with?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Okay. And am I correct Redner's has a
- 9 progressive discipline policy?
- 10 A. Not for this particular situation, we
- 11 do not.
- 12 Q. What do you mean by that?
- 13 A. So in our handbook it states that
- 14 you -- it could be discipline up to termination
- 15 on the first offense, just based on the severity.
- 16 Q. Okay. Was there any consideration or
- 17 discussion made about Miss Onley working for four
- 18 years without receiving any prior discipline?
- 19 A. Again, in this type of situation, we
- 20 feel that this reaches a level that we can't --
- 21 we can't allow in our -- in the workplace.
- Q. When you say we, again, who are you
- 23 referencing?
- 24 A. When I say we, I'm referencing myself

R&K Reporting Inc.

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- 1 and Mr. McDonough.
- Q. Okay. Okay. All right. Looking at
- 3 the letter, the first paragraph, Miss McGrory
- 4 writes about two to three months ago having
- 5 discussions with Connie Onley where she feels
- 6 that she and Miss McGrory are discriminated
- 7 against because they are females in the
- 8 department. Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And Miss McGrory writes that she does
- 11 not feel that way, correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. Do you remember ever learning about
- 14 Miss Onley complaining that she felt she was
- 15 being discriminated against due to her gender at
- 16 the Audubon location?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Is that something you would expect
- 19 management to make you aware of if an employee
- 20 complains of gender discrimination?
- 21 A. Correct. Not only management, but I
- 22 also had a conversation with Miss Onley when we
- 23 were ending the meeting at store 63, letting her
- 24 know that she knows who I am, she can reach out

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- 1 to me if there are any other issues. I had not
- 2 heard from her at that point, since that point.
- 3 Q. Okay. All right. And through your
- 4 discussions with Mr. Michener and your part in
- 5 the investigation from this October 1, 2020
- 6 incident, did you ever come to learn any reason
- 7 why Miss McGrory included this in the statement,
- 8 this first paragraph that we just described?
- 9 A. Yeah, I think she just continued to
- 10 become frustrated by her. That's what I was
- 11 getting from them, and based on what she stated
- 12 in this.
- 13 Q. Okay. She writes later on, on the
- 14 bottom of the first page, Bates stamp 317: I
- 15 just had a sit down with Dave Kemp approximately
- 16 September 10th in regard to Connie about things
- 17 she talks about in the meat department that I
- 18 don't feel comfortable with.
- Do you remember ever learning about
- 20 a sit-down or a complaint from Miss McGrory with
- 21 Dave Kemp around September 10, 2020?
- 22 A. I was not aware of that, no.
- Q. Okay. And Dave Kemp, we spoke about
- 24 him before, wasn't he the assistant manager at

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- 1 the Lansdale location?
- A. No, Dave Kehm is -- it's not Kemp,
- 3 it's Kehm, K-E-H-M. He is the director of -- not
- 4 exactly sure. He's a meat specialist, so he
- 5 oversees 10 or 12 stores, the meat department
- 6 areas in those stores. So he's a meat supervisor
- 7 essentially.
- 8 Q. Okay. But in this exhibit D-5 she's
- 9 writing about Dave Kemp. I guess that's someone
- 10 else then, correct?
- 11 A. No, I think she's referring to Dave
- 12 Kehm there.
- 13 Q. Okay. And is that something you would
- 14 expect in your practice to be made aware of, if
- 15 an employee was complaining about another
- 16 coworker?
- A. So a lot of times it does not cross my
- 18 desk. He is a supervisor, so he could take that
- 19 complaint. Typically, when it reaches the level
- 20 of HR, it's something that he feels could be an
- 21 issue and he would relate it to me. At this time
- 22 I was not -- at that time I was not aware of him
- 23 sitting down with Sandra -- or Connie, I'm sorry.
- Q. Well, when you see it in the statement

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- 1 that you reviewed on October 1, 2020, did you
- 2 ever try to reach out to Dave and figure out what
- 3 was going on?
- A. That had -- at the time, it had
- 5 nothing to do with the fact that -- the issue at
- 6 hand, in my opinion, which was her bringing a
- 7 dildo or talking about bringing a dildo to the
- 8 workplace.
- 9 Q. Right. But I mean it was important
- 10 enough apparently for Miss McGrory to write it in
- 11 this complaint, correct?
- 12 A. Again, I think she was frustrated by
- 13 it, yes, by Connie -- by Miss Onley, so she put
- 14 it in there.
- 15 Q. So, like, the answer to my prior
- 16 question, you did not reach out to Dave at the
- 17 time you received this statement to ask him if he
- 18 ever met with Miss McGrory?
- 19 A. I don't believe I did, no.
- Q. Did you ever meet with him at any
- 21 point afterwards?
- 22 A. After this statement?
- Q. Yeah, to talk about what Miss McGrory
- 24 writes in here, that she allegedly complained

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- 1 about Miss Onley around September 10th?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Okay. So you never confirmed one way
- 4 or the other with Dave or anyone, whether what
- 5 Miss McGrory writes here is truthful?
- 6 MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: No.
- 8 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 9 Q. Okay. She writes: I expressed to
- 10 Dave I don't like how Connie continues to play
- 11 the race card, age card, and once again that
- 12 myself and Connie were discriminated because we
- 13 are females.
- Do you remember Miss Onley ever
- 15 bringing to your attention that she felt she was
- 16 being treated differently based on her race?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Did you ever speak to Miss McGrory
- 19 about what it meant when she said Miss Onley is
- 20 playing the race card?
- 21 A. I never spoke to Miss McGrory.
- 22 Q. I know not during the investigation,
- 23 but at any point after Miss Onley's termination
- 24 did you ever follow up with Miss McGrory to talk

R&K Reporting Inc.

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- 1 about what had transpired?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Okay. Do you remember anyone at the
- 4 Audubon location ever speaking to you about Miss
- 5 Onley speaking that -- about Miss Onley
- 6 complaining that she felt she was being treated
- 7 unfairly based on her race?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Okay. And do you have any
- 10 understanding why Miss McGrory, in writing this
- 11 statement, brings up the fact that Miss Onley had
- 12 complained that she was being treated differently
- 13 due to her race?
- MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Apparently she must
- have had that conversation with Miss
- 17 McGrory. However, it was never reported.
- 18 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 19 Q. Okay. And then on the next paragraph
- 20 on KS318, it continues: Approximately on
- 21 September 5th Connie made a statement to me that
- 22 she wants to put a dildo in Shaun's coat pocket.
- So I asked you prior about comments
- 24 regarding the dildo, the prank against

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whether they occurred on October 1, 2020, and you

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3 believed they had.
4 Reading this now, do you believe
5 that that -- those kind of comments were
6 discussed on October 1, 2020 or prior to October
7 1, 2020?
8 A. So I'm just rereading the statement.
9 According to this, yes, it looks like it happened

Mr. Rhoton, and content of a sexual nature,

12 Q. Do you remember -- is there any reason

on September 5th. And it looks like it was

- 13 that sitting here today you don't believe that
- 14 you knew after reading this statement when you
- 15 first received it, October 1, 2020, that you
- 16 would have read these comments initiating about a
- 17 dildo started almost a month prior?

1

2

10

11

ongoing.

- MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I do recall
- 20 that. And it -- honestly it wouldn't have
- 21 mattered. They occurred and it's not
- appropriate for the workplace. And once
- it has been reported, that's when we act
- on it. We don't know what we don't know.

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- 1 BY MR. OLCESE:
- Q. Right. And then -- but isn't it fair
- 3 to assume that the policy in place is to protect
- 4 employees that feel they're being harassed,
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. And wouldn't you expect an employee
- 8 feeling they are being harassed would come and
- 9 present the facts of what's happening within a
- 10 month timeframe?
- 11 A. Not necessarily. It doesn't always
- 12 work like that.
- 13 Q. Why not?
- 14 A. It depends on who's reporting it and
- 15 how they're feeling and the circumstances.
- 16 Q. Do you remember ever considering the
- 17 fact, or talking with either Mr. McDonough or
- 18 Mr. Michener that Miss McGrory is now bringing
- 19 forward these alleged sexual harassment
- 20 complaints after a month, and if that mattered or
- 21 not?
- 22 A. Yes. It didn't matter.
- O. It didn't matter?
- 24 A. No.

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- 1 Q. Okay. Did you ever question why, why
- 2 was Miss McGrory bringing it to our attention
- 3 today rather than any other day?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And what did you discuss with that?
- 6 A. She basically said this is ongoing and
- 7 I'm tired of it. I keep asking her to stop and
- 8 she keeps continuing. I can't take it anymore.
- 9 Q. And then on the last -- third page,
- 10 excuse me, she goes on to talk about what
- 11 transpired on October 1, 2020. Do you see that
- 12 on Bates stamp KS319?
- 13 A. I do, yes.
- 14 Q. Okay. What I'd like you to do is just
- 15 read to yourself, please, from that section to
- 16 the rest of the statement which ends on KS320,
- 17 page 4 of D-5, and let me know when you're
- 18 finished. Okay?
- 19 A. Okay. (Reviewing document). Okay.
- 20 Q. Okay. So you had a chance to read
- 21 that, correct, Miss Foreman?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. All right. So on the last page,
- 24 towards the middle, Miss McGrory writes: I

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- 1 yelled again, I don't fucking care, stop it.
- 2 Do you see that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Right. So when you read this report
- 5 at that time, you knew Miss McGrory had used
- 6 expletive language against Miss Onley, right?
- 7 A. Yeah, obviously I was wrong. I forgot
- 8 I read that. But I -- yes, I did read that, and
- 9 yes, I would have known that.
- 10 Q. Right. And did you ever come to learn
- 11 where this altercation between Miss Onley and
- 12 Miss McGrory took place on October 1, 2020?
- 13 A. Initially in the meat room.
- Q. And you've been to the Audubon
- 15 location. The meat room location, that's within
- 16 public view, correct; the customers can see
- 17 behind the meat counter?
- 18 A. Not the way -- like in the meat room,
- 19 there's doors that are closed. And where they
- 20 were, my understanding is they were in the back.
- 21 I'm not really sure if there were doors or not,
- 22 honestly, because I get the stores kind of
- 23 confused sometimes. They're all set up a little
- 24 bit differently.

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- 1 Q. Based on your understanding of the
- 2 discipline policy, can an employee at Redner's be
- 3 disciplined for yelling and cursing and -- if the
- 4 customers can hear it?
- 5 A. If the customers can hear it and it's
- 6 out on the sales floor, yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. So Miss McGrory was not
- 8 disciplined, so was it your understanding that
- 9 even though she was yelling and cursing, it was
- 10 not within an earshot of customers?
- 11 A. It was not on the sales floor, yes.
- 12 That's my understanding.
- 13 Q. How -- when did you come to learn it
- 14 was not on the sales floor?
- 15 A. My understanding is that this occurred
- 16 in the meat room.
- 17 Q. Right. Who told you it was not on the
- 18 sales floor where customers couldn't hear it, is
- 19 what I'm asking?
- 20 A. There was no talk about customers
- 21 overhearing it.
- 22 Q. Okay. So you're just assuming that no
- 23 customers overheard it because you didn't hear if
- 24 they did?

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- 1 A. It was discussed with -- I don't
- 2 really recall if it was discussed with Karl or
- 3 not. So I would have to say yes, I didn't hear
- 4 it, that it was on the sales floor. My
- 5 understanding was that it was in the meat room.
- 6 Q. Okay. And we talked a little bit ago
- 7 about you learning that Miss McGrory threw a pot
- 8 during this exchange, right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Did you read anywhere in Miss
- 11 McGrory's statement where she admits to throwing
- 12 a pot?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Okay. And doesn't Redner's have a
- 15 policy about making good faith, honest
- 16 complaints?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Do you believe it would be pertinent
- 19 that if Miss McGrory was being honest about the
- 20 entire exchange that she had with Miss Onley, she
- 21 would write, hey, I got mad, I cursed, like she
- 22 did, but then also write that she threw a pot?
- A. Sometimes they leave some details out
- 24 because they're really upset when they write

R&K Reporting Inc.

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- 1 statements. It's not unusual.
- 2 Q. Right.
- 3 A. They don't write everything out.
- 4 Q. Right. So, but wouldn't you agree
- 5 this statement is less than fully accurate then?
- 6 MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I wouldn't
- 8 agree with that.
- 9 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 10 Q. So this is fully accurate, this is
- 11 exactly what happened?
- 12 A. I didn't say it was exactly what
- 13 happened, but it is pretty accurate. And that
- 14 conversation was discussed, with Karl my
- 15 understanding was.
- 16 O. What was discussed?
- 17 A. The situation that occurred that day.
- 18 Q. It's your understanding that Miss
- 19 McGrory admitted to Mr. Michener when they spoke
- 20 during the investigation that she threw a pot?
- 21 A. I don't know that for sure.
- Q. Okay. Wouldn't that matter to you,
- 23 investigating what really happened, if an
- 24 employee threw a pot in an angry outburst?

R&K Reporting Inc.

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- 1 MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: Not when it was into
- 3 a sink.
- 4 BY MR. OLCESE:
- 5 Q. Okay. So there's no concern there
- 6 because it went into a sink; it has to hit
- 7 somebody, is that your testimony?
- 8 A. No, that's not my testimony. My
- 9 testimony is she just put it in the sink, tossed
- 10 it into the sink. She wasn't trying to hurt
- 11 anyone, was my understanding.
- 12 Q. Where did you -- I'm asking where did
- 13 you get that understanding?
- 14 A. I got it probably during -- either
- 15 during the EEOC when Sandra responded in her
- 16 testimony. I'm not really sure.
- 17 Q. Well, are you just assuming now, or
- 18 did you receive that information that she placed
- 19 it in the sink gently from someone?
- 20 A. Yeah, I didn't say that. I said she
- 21 tossed it into the sink and didn't want to hurt
- 22 anyone. And I believe when we were doing our
- 23 prep for the -- I'm sorry, the unemployment
- 24 hearing, I believe that may have been where it

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- 1 came up. I can't recall. But I did have that
- 2 conversation with her.
- 3 Q. Well, you testified earlier that the
- 4 first time you believe you learned that she threw
- 5 a pot was during the unemployment hearing you
- 6 participated in.
- 7 A. I think that's what I just said. I
- 8 believe that's what I just said. During the
- 9 unemployment. I thought that's what I just said.
- 10 Q. Okay. So, in your opinion though,
- 11 when she throws a pot, it's of no significance,
- 12 it has no bearing on her statement, because she
- 13 tossed it into the sink; is that right?
- 14 A. It didn't -- in this matter that I was
- 15 addressing, it did not have an impact, no.
- Q. Well, doesn't the Redner's policy
- 17 against workplace violence also address workplace
- 18 intimidation?
- MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.
- THE WITNESS: We do have -- yeah,
- we do have a clause about intimidation.
- 22 BY MR. OLCESE:
- Q. Okay. And do you not think that an
- 24 employee yelling, cursing, throwing a pot, could

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- 1 be intimidating to another coworker?
- 2 A. I guess it could be. In this
- 3 situation, to me it seemed like Miss Onley was
- 4 the aggressor because she wouldn't leave Miss
- 5 McGrory alone.
- 6 Q. Right.
- 7 A. And that was her way of getting away.
- 8 Q. My question for you is, if you knew
- 9 Miss McGrory honestly said she got angry, she
- 10 shouted, she cursed at Miss Onley and then threw
- 11 a pot into the sink, is that something you would
- 12 have asked Mr. Michener to talk to her about, to
- 13 see possibly if Miss McGrory should be subject to
- 14 discipline for that behavior?
- 15 A. We talked about the language, yes, and
- 16 he did speak with her about that.
- 17 Q. But you did not talk about throwing a
- 18 pot because you don't know about it, right?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. If you knew about it, sitting here
- 21 today, do you believe you would have instructed
- 22 Mr. Michener to have addressed that with her and
- 23 you possibly could have had a conversation about
- 24 subjecting her to discipline?

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MR. ELLIOTT: Object to the form.

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- THE WITNESS: Possibly, but I would 3 think it would be more of a counseling. It would depend on the circumstance. Hard 5 to say. 6 BY MR. OLCESE: 7 Q. Okay. And if you knew at that time, around October 1, 2020 when you were doing your 8 9 investigation, that Miss McGrory had thrown a 10 pot, would you have instructed Mr. Michener to
- 12 Α. I would have thought that would have
- 13 come up in whether she wrote a statement, which
- she refused to do, or in the conversation. 14
- my understanding is that never came up. 15

ask Miss Onley about that fact?

- Right. So my question though was, if 16 0.
- 17 you knew about that, if Miss McGrory wrote it in
- 18 the statement, do you believe sitting here today
- you would have asked Mr. Michener, when he got a 19
- 20 statement or questioned Miss Onley, to ask about
- 21 that subject of throwing the pot?
- Yeah, I probably would have. 22 Α.
- have thought it would have come up, though, if it 23
- 24 was an issue.

1

2

11

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- 1 Q. Okay. I mean, knowing that now, does
- 2 that change your decisionmaking sitting here
- 3 today, whether Miss Onley should have been
- 4 terminated?
- 5 A. No, it does not.
- 6 Q. Does it change the fact whether you
- 7 belive Miss McGrory should have been issued some
- 8 form of discipline for her actions?
- 9 A. I can't answer that.
- 10 Q. You don't know?
- 11 A. I -- I would have had to have asked
- 12 the circumstances and had a better understanding
- 13 of how Connie felt, Miss Onley felt. But neither
- 14 one of them told us about that at the time, so we
- 15 were unaware.
- 16 Q. Okay. Did you ever inform
- 17 Mr. Michener to send Miss Onley home for the day?
- 18 A. Yes, that is typical protocol when
- 19 we're investigating.
- Q. Well, did you tell Mr. Michener to
- 21 send Miss McGrory home for the day?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. If it's typical protocol, why did you
- 24 not do that?

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- 1 A. Because she was the one complaining.
- Q. Okay. And do you recall if -- do you
- 3 know whether or not Miss Onley ever returned to
- 4 work after being sent home for that day?
- 5 A. I don't believe she did. I think she
- 6 was suspended pending HR review.
- 7 Q. I understand Mr. Michener drafted a
- 8 termination notice a few days after doing the
- 9 investigation. Were you -- did you take part in
- 10 drafting that termination notice at all?
- 11 A. I typically do, but when I do, I write
- 12 my own name and title and it's not on there. So
- 13 I'm assuming that I either communicated to Karl
- 14 how to write it or he did it himself.
- 15 Q. All right. Understood. Bear with me
- 16 one second, please.
- 17 I understand that you drafted a
- 18 statement around January 18, 2021. Do you
- 19 remember doing that?
- 20 A. I do.
- 21 Q. Why did you draft a statement at that
- 22 time?
- 23 A. I believe it was our position
- 24 statement in response to the EEOC complaint.

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- 1 Q. And were you responsible for
- 2 responding to the EEOC charge of discrimination?
- A. I don't respond to it, our general
- 4 counsel does. But because I was involved in it,
- 5 he asked me to write a statement.
- 6 Q. I understand. Okay. And did you
- 7 reach out to anyone else to write statements?
- A. I believe I asked Mr. DeGeorgio and
- 9 Mr. Kehm.
- 10 Q. Okay. Did you type up anyone else's
- 11 statement other than your own?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Okay. Do you remember reviewing
- 14 documents during this litigation called
- 15 interrogatories?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And I understand they were submitted
- 18 by counsel. Before they were submitted, though,
- 19 did you have a chance to review them and make any
- 20 changes if necessary?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. All right. Miss Foreman, I
- 23 appreciate your time. I don't have anything
- 24 further unless Jeff has some few questions for

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you, okay?
 1
 2
                   MR. ELLIOTT: No, I don't have any
 3
            questions. Thanks, Andrew. And thanks,
 4
           Miss Vance.
 5
                   COURT REPORTER: Mr. Elliott, do
 6
            you need a copy of her transcript also as
 7
           well?
 8
                   MR. ELLIOTT: We've already ordered
 9
           this. And I just talked to your colleague
10
           about Mr. Michener's, so, same form, same
11
           manner, same copy, indexing. That would
12
           be great.
13
14
                (Witness excused.)
15
                (Deposition concluded at approximately
16
    3:36 p.m.)
17
18
19
20
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22
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24
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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the proceedings, evidence, and objections noted herein are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me upon the foregoing matter, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

Robin A. Vance, CCR, RPR

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R&K Reporting Inc.

EXHIBITS

ALEXIS FOREMAN

Date: June 27, 2022

Connie Onley v. Redner's Markets, Inc.

No.: USDC EDPA 21-4785

R&K Reporting Inc. 37390 Harmony Drive Selbyville, Delaware 19975 Phone: 215-946-7009

Email: scheduling@rkcourtreporting.com



OC+ 1, 2020

. I "Soundre McGrory have approached Court Store General manager aprox. 2 3 month ago about an Issue my . Noune was brought into by . Connie (Scafood Clerk un Meat Dept) Choat how She feets herself and It are being discriminated against because we are remales in the Dept When I was approached by weat DEPT Manager about this concern I was carpet of good because by No means do I feel this way out all. And I expressed to Morcos and carl I do not want my warme in anyway in this. I'm assuming action may have been taken or at least I would hepe.

Things have not calmed down and I am Cortany on guard with Connie as I've bein approched for 19 second time by Marcos on the above Statement.

I Just had a sit dawn with Itare Kennys approx. September 10th in regard to Connie about Things she tolks about in the meat Dept. That I don't feel comfortable with I expressed to Trive that I don't like how Connie Continues to Play the Roce could age could, and ones again that misser and connie we discrimented against because we are females. I expressed to Dove I do not feel that way at all.

Approx on Sept. 5th Commie mode a Stedement to me that She wonted to put a dildo in Stowns cook focket I advised how its not a good idea. A few days later Connie infrart of Several Co-workers in the meat Dept. blantly said how she used sexual top and ontoys them. I clearly said out land I don't care and write said at land I don't care and write stept and at land I don't care and write

Approx Sept 25th I was making Sowinge for the most Case and was and explained to me one of explained to me one one wasten 50 shake of Group I tomed and odd on that my second Favorite movie Comie them

puiled my dido Out and Used it I looked at how and sald I don't Come. I then thered and did not realize I have most present for the Converstation that hist teak place and was just as shecked as I was.

Later that afternoon I was worth to use the wrapper to wap ment As shown was using it a the time. All of a sudden connie colls my wome. And says to me All you need is hot water and said what are also my some to water and said what are you taking about she lack and says my soek toy show kapes room and I control of Shown was lack and says my soek toy shown kapes room and I control of Shown bayes room and I don't care.

Cornie Started talking about how while training of the Cornie Started talking about how while training of the Riots in America and how them is no Such thing as Hatifar and It's only the Training the Losures I losured at Connie and Clearly Said Brough Stop I don't want to hear it. Connie Cornines

with other Herris in Regardes to 45 all the White People doing this, I at that time kest it Screamed loudly out her I don't correct to hear any More Stop it. walked Stermed out of west Dept Connre followed me I willed Copein I don't Ficking come Stop it. I was very origin I asked HO go out the Recieving door to I went out back to get my mind Clear and to com down Conne then follows me outside and I Externed at how to go away leak ma alma and I walked up the book side of the book ding took a Few minter to colm, down the can a back with building where I was very by sim assists and the Statement

Myrk